

**REMARKS**

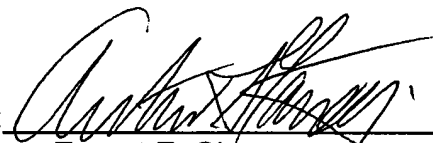
Claims 1-12 are currently pending. Claims 5 to 11 have been amended in order to eliminate improper multiple claim dependency. No new matter has been introduced by these amendments.

The examiner is respectfully requested to consider the above preliminary amendment prior to examination of the application. If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: September 29, 2006

By:   
Ernest F. Chapman  
Reg. No. 25,961

EFC/FPD/blc